

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GUATEM 05449 150556Z
ACTION ARA-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DODE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13
JUSE-00 NSAE-00 CTME-00 SNM-05 TRSE-00 ICA-11
NSC-05 OES-09 OMB-01 /075 W
-----044421 160846Z /21

R 141757Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1661
INFO DEA HQS WASHDC
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY PANAMA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GUATEMALA 5449

EMBASSIES FOR NARCOTIC COORDINATOR; DEA; CUSTOMS
DEA HQS FOR ENL, ENS

EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: SNAR GT
SUBJECT: TRAINING OF CENTRAL AMERICAN CUSTOMS PERSONNEL

REF: (A) STATE 223315, (B) GUATEMALA 4754, (C) STATE 197606,
(D) STATE 118027

1. WE FULLY SHARE REF A'S APPRECIATION OF CENTRAL
AMERICA'S ROLE IN THE TRANSIT OF NARCOTICS AND WELCOME
TRAINING ASSISTANCE IN THIS AREA BY CUSTOMS.

2. WITH REFERENCE TO REF A'S ALLUSION TO A "UNIFIED
APPROACH" IN THIS AREA, WE ARE UNCLEAR REGARDING EXTENT
OF COORDINATION WITH DEA IN THIS MATTER. IS THE
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TRAINING IN QUESTION PART OF THE ALREADY PLANNED PAN
AMERICAN INTERDICTION PROGRAM WHOSE TRAINING COMPONENT,
ACCORDING TO DEA, HAS BEEN COORDINATED WITH CUSTOMS?

3. LOCAL DEA OFFICE INFORMED US SOME TIME AGO THAT
REF D HAD BEEN THE TOPIC OF DISCUSSION AT DEA HQS IN
WHICH TRAINING SECTIONS OF BOTH CUSTOMS AND DEA PARTI-

CIPATED. POSSIBILITY OF CUSTOMS REGIONAL SCHOOL
SLATED FOR SAN JOSE BEING HELD AT GUATEMALA WAS RAISED
THERE AND, WE UNDERSTAND, WAS TO HAVE BEEN TAKEN UNDER
STUDY. LOCAL DEA OFFICE HAS NOT BEEN ADVISED REGARDING
FINAL DECISION ON THAT IDEA. OUR HAVING WITHHELD COMMENT
ON REF D PROPOSING SAN JOSE TRAINING, CONSEQUENTLY,
SHOULD NOT BE CONSTRUED AS OPPOSITION TO SOME SORT OF
CUSTOMS TRAINING AS PART OF PAN AMERICAN INTERDICTION
PROGRAM.

4. REF A PARA 3 REFERS TO MISSION'S RELUCTANCE TO
NOMINATE PERSONNEL FOR A CUSTOMS MID-MANAGEMENT COURSE
IN WASHINGTON. AS WE SAID IN REF B, GUATEMALA CUSTOMS
DOES NOT HAVE A CANDIDATE MEETING THE CRITERIA DESCRIBED
IN REF C. IF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR CANDIDATE ARE MORE
FLEXIBLE THAN DESCRIBED, GUATEMALA CAN PROBABLY OFFER
ONE, ALTHOUGH IT IS UNCERTAIN WHETHER GOG WOULD AGREE
TO INCUR SHARED EXPENSE.

5. WE SEE NO UTILITY IN VISIT BY CUSTOMS REPRESENTATIVE
IF DEPARTMENT CAN CLARIFY POINTS RAISED HERE.

6. REQUEST DEPARTMENT INCLUDE IN IT REPLY
APPROPRIATE DEA OFFICES AS INFO ADDRESSEES.
BOSTER

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Message Attributes

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